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2173 PATENT #2
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12/27/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/594,226
Filed: June 14, 2000
Inventor(s):
Greg Richardson and Steve
Rogers

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Examiner: Unknown
Group/Art Unit: 2773
Atty. Dkt. No: 5150-39900

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DEC 26 2000
Technology Center 2100

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD
FOR EXPORTING A
GRAPHICAL PROGRAM
TO A SHARED LIBRARY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date indicated below.

Jeffrey C. Hood

Name of Registered Representative

Jeffrey C. Hood

Signature

12/13/2000

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant requests consideration of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. within 3 months of the filing date of the above identified application, or within 3 months of entry into National stage prosecution of an International application, or before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- b. after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:
- the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
 a fee of \$240.00 is enclosed.
- c. after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
- the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **and**
 a Petition and fee of \$130.00 are enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified:

- that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:

09/136,123 Filed August 18, 1998 (5150-25801)

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:

- reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
- reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) _____, and/or
- reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:

5. Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
6. Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.
8. Applicant(s) request that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

COMMENTS

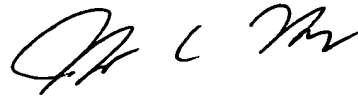
Applicant refers to the Background section of the Application at page 5, lines 5 - 18.

Here the Background section states: "Some current graphical programming environments provide a node for calling a standard shared library from within a graphical program. In this way, graphical programs can utilize other types of executable code, including code created from a text-based programming language." Applicant provides in this IDS a copy of the "LabVIEW Code Interface Reference Manual" and a portion of the "LabVIEW Function Reference Manual" which describes this prior art operation.

Here the Background section also states: "Previous approaches to enabling graphical programs to be called using shared libraries suffer from various drawbacks. For example, one approach in current use for the Windows platform is to create a DLL that has entry points that call a graphical program indirectly by interfacing with an ActiveX out-of-process server, where this ActiveX server is operable to invoke the desired graphical program. However, calling a graphical program using this method may be inefficient, since a process switch is involved. Also, this approach may require programmers to understand various aspects of the ActiveX framework." Applicant is unaware of any documentation or printed materials that could be provided to the Patent Office regarding these previous approaches. Applicant has included this information in the Background section of the patent application and in the present IDS to comply with full disclosure.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5150-39900/JCH.

Respectfully submitted,



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